

Name:

Date:

Class:

## Creating Your Own Western

### Directions:

- 1) Using the space below, write a synopsis or summary of an original short story (made up by you) **using one of the three main characters from *True Grit* (Rooster, Mattie, LaBoeuf).** Your summary should include the characters, conflict, major events, and how the conflict gets resolved. You can write out the full story if you want, but it needs to be less than two pages long.

Your story should also **reflect some of the characteristics and trends of the western genre.** This can include:

- a) **The characters** -- *The hero, the flawed hero, the outlaw, the love interest*
  - b) **The setting** -- *The west, obviously. But it also usually reflects the "Civilization vs. Wilderness" theme common in Westerns: something wild mixed with something more settled and civilized (such as Fort Smith, Arkansas).*
  - c) **The plot** -- *An outlaw or band of outlaws comes into a quiet town or threatens or hurts a loved one, and the hero or flawed hero steps up to stop him/her/them. You can stray from this a little bit, but there should be a clear outlaw(s) and hero or flawed hero trying to stop the outlaw.*
- 2) You will take your story, or a scene from the story, and create a storyboard for it using the application Storyboard That. The storyboard can be no longer than **eight (8) panels**, and it should either illustrate your whole story or one scene from it. **You must turn in both the storyboard and your story to receive full points.**

**We will discuss and work on the storyboard on Friday in class.**

- 3) You will be graded on the following:
  - a) Your use and understanding of the elements of the western genre
  - b) The clarity of your short story and storyboard
  - c) The neatness and effort displayed on the storyboard and short story

### **Summary of Assignments**

**Due Thursday, May 12:** Use the space on the back of this page to write out the synopsis of your western, using Mattie, Rooster, or LaBoeuf as one of the characters.

**Due by the end of class on Friday, May 20:** A storyboard, created using the Storyboard That application, that consists of no more than eight (8) panels and adheres to the guidelines above. The storyboard should represent all or one scene of your original western story. We will work on this in class on Friday, May 13th, and on Friday, May 20th.

